

editor of the Magazine 'Outing.' The first of the series is entitled 'The Deer Family,' and is written largely by Theodore Roosevelt, with articles by T. S. Van Dyke, D. G. Elliot, Andrew J. Stone and others, with maps by C. Hart Merriam, and illustrations by Carl Rungus. The first volume is excellent — it could hardly be otherwise under such authorship — and the second is quite up to the standard of the first.

'Upland Game Birds' cannot fail to interest alike the sportsman, the ornithologist, and the general reader. Mr. Edwyn Sandys, who is the author of about seven eighths of the volume, is a keen field observer and a pleasing writer, whose experience covers the whole field of his subject, including the natural history as well as the sportsman's side, with both of which he is in fullest sympathy. In addition to the rasorial birds, which naturally constitute the bulk of the upland game birds, the work includes the Cranes, the Mourning Dove, the Woodcock, Bartram's or 'Upland' Plover, and the Golden Plover. Mr. T. S. Van Dyke writes of the 'Quail and Grouse of the Pacific Coast' (pp. 377-417), while all of the others (pp. 1-374) are treated by Mr. Sandys. Of the eight full-page plates, illustrating as many species of game birds, five are by Mr. Fuertes, two by Mr. Nugent and one by Mr. Bull. — J. A. A.

**Richmond's List of Generic Terms proposed for Birds during 1890-1900.**<sup>1</sup>—This valuable aid to workers in systematic ornithology comprises not only the generic and subgeneric terms proposed since the publication of Waterhouse's well-known 'Index Generum Avium,' some 475 in number, but also includes about 200 overlooked or omitted by Waterhouse, the total number of names here listed being 675. The list is constructed on an exceedingly useful plan, the family to which each genus belongs being indicated, and fossil genera being distinguished from the living; the type species of each is indicated, and the reason stated for the proposal of names given to replace earlier ones; and, finally, the derivation of the name. At the end is a classified list of the names, arranged alphabetically under families. The work is thus most admirably planned, and has evidently been executed with great care. Its usefulness cannot easily be overestimated.

A glance over the list suffices to make evident several interesting facts, namely: (1) that of the 475 generic and subgeneric terms published during the eleven years, 1890-1900, about one fourth relate to extinct forms; (2) that about one fifth, or nearly 100, have been given "on grounds of purism," or for other needless reasons; (3) that, despite recent noteworthy activity in this line, only about one tenth of the names given have been

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<sup>1</sup> List of Generic Terms propose for Birds during the years 1890 to 1900, inclusive, to which are added names omitted by Waterhouse in his "Index Generum Avium." By Charles W. Richmond, Assistant Curator, Division of Birds. Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., Vol. XXIV, No. 1267, pp. 663-729. May, 1902.

required for the purpose of replacing preoccupied names; and (4) that one half of the new names have been bestowed in christening groups believed by the authors of the names to be new. It may be added that the names needlessly, or knowingly, given to replace others, generally on avowed grounds of purism, are chargeable mainly to two authors, too well known for their efforts to 'purify' zoölogical nomenclature to require mention in the present connection, and not to any general proneness on the part of ornithological systematists in general to this sort of purification.—J. A. A.

Oberholser's Review of the Horned Larks.<sup>1</sup>—The Horned Larks are known as an exceptionally plastic group, of wide distribution, ranging from the arctic regions well into the tropics, in both the Old World and the New, and hence subject to great diversity of environment. Such conditions are eminently favorable for differentiation and the segregation of local races. Of the 36 forms recognized by Mr. Oberholser, all but six are ranked as subspecies. Of *Otocoris alpestris* alone 23 forms are recognized, one of which occupies northern Europe and northern Asia, the rest being American, of which one is found in Colombia, several others in Mexico, and no less than 18 in North America, north of Mexico. The Old World forms include, besides *O. alpestris flava*, 5 other species and 8 additional subspecies, known as yet from scanty material, in comparison with the American forms. Of the 36 forms recognized by Mr. Oberholser, 8 are here described as new.

The trenchantly defined forms are few; in the other cases, both in the Old World and America, Mr. Oberholser finds that the forms insensibly grade into other forms, often into several other forms, "so that with all the connecting links represented it frequently becomes a matter of considerable difficulty satisfactorily to segregate the forms represented by such series." He also finds that "the reduplication of forms in far separated localities seems to be carried to the extreme" in the present group, which reduplication he attributes, in part, to the interbreeding of several closely allied forms where their ranges come together.

While Mr. Oberholser's material for his present 'Review' does not greatly exceed in amount that at the disposal of Dr. Dwight in his revision of the American forms of *Otocoris* in 1890, it is largely different, containing a much greater proportion of breeding birds, and much material from regions scantily or not at all represented in the material studied by Dr. Dwight, who had very little from points south of the United States. While Dr. Dwight recognized only 11 forms from North America, north of Mexico, Mr. Oberholser finds it expedient to recognize

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<sup>1</sup> A Review of the Larks of the Genus *Otocoris*, By Harry C. Oberholser, Assistant Ornithologist, Department of Agriculture. Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., Vol. XXIV, No. 1271, pp. 801-884, with maps and plates. June, 1902.